

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01 TAR-02

SPC-03 AGR-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00

OIC-04 RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 CEA-02

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FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2412

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNDP, EAID

SUBJ: UNDP - 17TH GOVERNING COUNCIL - ITEM 4(B) -

MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS PROJECTS

REF: STATE 7562

1. MEMBER U.S. DELEGATION MET WITH LEONARD HOUZER, DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION, UNCTAD, GENEVA TO CLARIFY FURTHER THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE INTERREGIONAL PROJECT "ADVISORY SERVICES FOR MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS" (INT/72/073) TO THE REGIONAL MTN PROJECTS IN LATIN AMERICA, AFRICA, ASIA AND POSSIBLY EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST. HOUZER (CANADIAN) INDICATED HE HAD INHERITED CERTAIN PROBLEMS WITH THESE PROJECTS WHEN HE ASSUMED HIS POSITION IN AUGUST 1973. HIS FIRST ACTION WAS TO CHANGE THE TITLE OF THE INTERREGIONAL PROJECT MANAGER FROM "CONSULTANT TO SECRETARY GENERAL OF UNCTAD" TO "INTERREGIONAL PROJECT MANAGER". AS SENIOR TRADE EXPERT WITH GATT FOR MANY YEARS, INCUMBENT PROJECT MANAGER ALSO ACTING AS FORMAL CONSULTANT TO SECRETARY GENERAL TO UNCTAD WAS BELIEVED BY MANY GOVERNMENTS,

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INCLUDING USG, TO BE EXERCISING UNDESIRABLE LINK BETWEEN

GATT AND LEADERSHIP OF UNCTAD. HOUZER BELIEVES CHANGE IN TITLE AND LIMITING ACCESS TO SECRETARY GENERAL HAS CORRECTED THE SITUATION.

2. HOUZER HAS DEVELOPED FOLLOWING GUIDELINES FOR THREE PROFESSIONALS EMPLOYED UNDER INTERREGIONAL PROJECT: (1) PROJECT EXPERTISE IS NOT REPEAT NOT AVAILABLE FOR REGIONAL GROUP MEETINGS IN GENEVA; (2) PROJECT EXPERTISE IS AVAILABLE TO GROUP OF 77 WHEN FORMALLY REQUESTED BY GROUP'S CHAIRMAN; AND (3) LDC'S ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM INTERREGIONAL PROJECT ARE ONLY THE 50 WHICH HAVE FORMALLY INDICATED THEY ARE PARTICIPATING IN MTN. RESIDENT DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA OF THSE 50 GOVERNMENTS MAY OBTAIN FROM INTERREGIONAL PROJECT COMPUTER DATA ON THEIR COUNTRIES' TRADE, AN ANALYSIS OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS PRESENTED TO THEM IN NEGOTIATIONS, AND VARIOUS OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO LDC GOVERNMENT IN DEVELOPMENT*OF THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITION.

3. HOUZER INDICATED REGIONAL MTN PROJECTS IN EARLY STAGE OF IMPLEMENTATION, INCLUDING THAT FOR LATIN AMERICA. REGIONAL PROJECTS FOR AFRICA AND ASIA NO FORMALLY APPROVED AND REGIONAL PROJECT FOR EUROPEA AND MIDDLE EAST STILL AT TALK STAGE. EACH PRE*UMED TO? COST APPROXIMATELY \$250,000 AND TO BE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH TRAINING SEMINARS ON MTN ISSUES. HOUZER HOPED TO EARMARK 25 PERCENT OF EACH REGIONAL PROJECT TO INCREASE STAFF OF INTERREGIONAL PROJECT TO SEVEN AND TO PERMIT INTERREGIONAL PROJECT EXPERTISE TO BE AVAILABLE TO REGIONAL GROUPS THROUGH THE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSION. HOUZER EMPHASIZED THAT *NTER-REGIONAL PROJE*T EXPERTS WERE NOT REPEAT NOT AVAI*ABLE TO REGION*L GROUPS IN GENEV*.

4. HOUZER OFFERED TO F RNISH AS MUCH INFORMATION AS U.S. DELEGATION *ESIRED AND WAS FU*LY RESPONSIVE TO QUESTIONS ASKED DURING COURSE OF DISCUSSION. SHOULD FURTHER INFORMATION BE REQUIRED, REQUEST INSTRUCTIONS BY END OF WEEK IN ORDER BENEFIT FROM HOUZER'S PRESENCE.
BENNETT

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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